

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 545

Introduced by Assembly Member Montanez
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Nunez)

February 18, 2003

An act to add Section 17077.43 to the Education Code, relating to school facilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 545, as amended, Montanez. School facilities: joint-use projects.

Existing law, the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998, requires the State Allocation Board to allocate to applicant school districts, ~~prescribe~~ *prescribed* per-unhoused-pupil state funding for construction and modernization of school facilities, including hardship funding, and supplemental funding for site development and acquisition. The existing act authorizes the board, from funds made available for these purposes, to provide grants to fund joint-use projects to construct facilities on kindergarten to grade 12, inclusive, schoolsites, ~~as provided~~.

This bill would require the board to give priority in grant funding to those approved joint-use projects that are located in an educational empowerment zone. *It would define an educational empowerment zone as an area with a critically overcrowded school and that has deficient public facilities, as specified.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17077.43 is added to the Education
2 Code, to read:

3 17077.43. (a) The board shall give priority in grant funding
4 to those projects approved under this article that are located in
5 educational empowerment zones.

6 (b) For the purposes of this section, an “educational
7 empowerment zone” is an area with a critically overcrowded
8 school that meets the criteria set forth in Section 17078.18 and that
9 has been declared by the local governmental agency as being
10 deficient in public facilities ~~used for~~ *including*, among other
11 things, parks, libraries, ~~child care or preschool~~ *child care or*
12 *preschool facilities*, recreational centers, cultural arts *centers*,
13 technology centers, or affordable housing *units*. The purpose of an
14 educational empowerment zone is to assist *in the development of*
15 *joint-use projects in* an area that has more than one deficient public
16 facility and has demonstrated cooperation and collaboration
17 between the school district and the local governmental agency *or*
18 *agencies*.

